Vol. III. Numb. 22.

The EXAMINER.

From Monday *February* 2, to Friday *February* 6, 1712.

Sæpe ego mecum, Patres Conſcripti, tacitus agitavi, qualem quantumq; eſſe oporteret, cujus ditione nutuque, maria, terræ, pax, bella regerentur: cum interea fingenti formantiq; mihi Principem, *quem æquata Diis Immortalibus poteſtas deceret, nunquam voto ſaltem concipere ſuccurrit ſimilem* Huic, *quam videmus.*
Plinii *Panegyricus* Divo Trajano Aug. *dictus.*

BY Duty and Inclination I devote my Labours of this Day to that *Sacred Name*, which, like another Sun, adorns it with double Splendor and Beauty. 'Tis the *Firſt* of the moſt valuable and Important Life now in being: In that one Bleſſing, I include more than Mankind have taſted for many Ages. Let it be obſerved with ſo much ſincere Devotion and Thankfulneſs, that Heaven, in determining its Eternal Decrees, may be conſtrain'd by our Importunities, and the Piety of the *Saint* that Graces the Feſtival, to give it *many Returns*. Let *to Morrow* be the Portion of Grief and Melancholly; and no Voice be heard upon this Day, but of Joy and Melody. Whilſt we are in the Poſſeſſion of ſo much Pleaſure, Expectation muſt give way to Enjoyment; and even Peace may be deferred a little longer. Let Health be the moſt gay and buſie Attendant this Day at Court; eſtabliſh Her Intereſt there, and lay the Foundation of a future happy Union between Old Age and Majeſty: Let not Avarice, Oppreſſion, or Sedition, peep forth of their Cells, whilſt this Sun runs his Courſe: All Fears and Jealouſies be lull'd to Reſt: Malice, Diſguſt and Treachery, be diſlodg'd from the Soul; and Faction it ſelf aſſume the Air of Chearfulneſs, and not interrupt the publick Joys with a Murmur.

Give me leave to hope, that they, who have ſo lately diſplay'd their Authority, in appointing many *New Feſtivals* for our People, will obſerve this Day, ſo univerſally Eſtabliſh'd, with a decent Joy at leaſt, tho' they reſerve their Frenzy for their own *Calendar*. Such Conduct may in ſome meaſure attone for former Omiſſions: I will not recount them at a time when they ought to have an end. Let not the living *Queen* have leſs Reſpect paid her than the dead *Monarch*, whom I freely own to be Immortal. When *To Morrow* comes (for *To Day* is Sacred) I will Drink the Health of that *Whig*, who ſhall wiſh this *Feſtival* may make as many Rounds, and ſtand affix'd to as great a Number of Years, as *That*, which was ſo lately Celebrated in Honour of *Her Succeſſor*. Had the ſame Men paid the ſame Compliment to *Her Majeſty* when *Princeſs*, this Ceremony had been without Exception: But as it is, I believe the Night was ſpent in Wiſhes as well as Rejoicings; and in imitation of the Old *Egyptian* Feaſts, there might be a *Death's-Head* upon the Table. It Shocks me to think of ſome *Hints* let fall by the *Revellers:* May the Reflection never reach that *Illuſtrious Houſe*, which is our *Other*, our *Second* Hope; but I venture to put up a hearty Prayer, That there may be a long, long Intercourſe between *That* and the *Firſt*; and that we may for many Years enjoy *Both* together, the *One* in Poſſeſſion, the *Other* in Expectation.

I know not how it is, that the Beſt of Princes, in the Diſpoſition of Human Affairs, are uſually reſerv'd for the moſt degenerate Age. Whether it be, that Vertue becomes more Eminent and Glorious, by being ſet in the midſt of *Foyles* and Temptations; or becauſe the wiſe Governor of the World finds it abſolutely neceſſary for the Support of His Kingdom here below, and to prevent his Sublunary Territories from being Diſſolv'd by Civil Confuſion, that his ableſt *Vicegerents*, and thoſe neareſt reſembling Himſelf, ſhould preſide over Mankind, in the moſt difficult and perplexing Juncture. It is certain, that a due Obſervation of this Day, and a ſolemn Attention to that great Example of Piety and Goodneſs, which is ſet before us, in the Life and Character of *Our Sovereign*, would as much Contribute towards the Healing our Inteſtine Diviſions, and that Unnatural Conteſt which is occaſioned by private Intereſts; as, in the Opinion of the moſt Religious and conſequently the Wiſeſt Philoſophers, a due Regard and Veneration paid to the *Great Creator* and *Firſt Mover* of all Things, would, in the Study and Knowledge of *Nature*, contribute towards the ſilencing thoſe ſenſeleſs Debates, and that unneceſſary Wrangle, which is wholly ſpent in advancing the Dignity and Uſefulneſs of *Second Cauſes*. The ſureſt, if not the only, way to reconcile *Two* oppoſite Extreams, is by finding out ſome *Third* Thing in which Both of them agree, and which, like a *Medium* in *Logick*, may bring the diſtant Parts together, and form a Union, not only agreeable to Reaſon, but ſuch as, in effect, is the true compleat Eſſence of that exalted Faculty: Now in what more noble Object can we reconcile our Broils and Differences, than in a *Princeſs* of the moſt conſummate Wiſdom and Piety? Here let our Duty meet our Affections: The Plan muſt be Ill-laid, and the Figure not uniform, unleſs all, even the moſt oppoſite *Lines*, do at laſt come together in this agreeable *Centre*. How Happy ſhould we all be, if a Portion of that Goodneſs, of which She is ſo tranſcendent a Pattern, were generouſly diffuſed through every Breaſt which owes Her its *Allegiance?* What is become of the Maxim of the *Antients*, That the Example of a Monarch influences a whole Kingdom? Either they were miſtaken, or we ſhould have been more Happy: The Fact is unqueſtionable, the Inconſiſtency never to be enough Lamented. Many of thoſe, who have taſted of *Her* Goodneſs, who feel *Her* Lenity, and ſubſiſt by *Her* Indulgence, ſuffer the remote Inhabitants of *Europe*, who, like thoſe under the *Pole*, are at a vaſt diſtance from *Her* Sunſhine, to ſurpaſs them in Returns of Devotion and Gratitude. What will Poſterity think of us? How will they account for the monſtrous Abſurdity, ſo good a *Queen*, and ſo divided a *People?* Let the *Moderate*, the *Unprejudiced*, the *Searchers after Truth*, tell me, what Vice, what Faction, ſhould have Power enough to Obſtruct the good Intentions and efficacious Example of this One, this Great, this Royal *Reformer?*

'Tis in moſt Caſes extream Folly, and in ſome downright Irreligion, to oppoſe *univerſal Conſent*, and the eſtabliſh'd Opinion of all Nations: And for this Reaſon, the Wiſdom, Piety, and other Vertues of *Her Majeſty*, deſerve the higheſt Veneration at home; ſince they have ſo juſtly procured Her the Eſteem of all the World, and made Her Name a Delight or a Terror to the Nations abroad. *France* acknowledges *Her* ſuperior Juſtice, has felt the Vengeance of Her Arms, and calls Her the *Deciding Power*. *France* was unacquainted with Victory, till *She* ſheath'd the deſtroying Sword; as if Providence deſign'd to point out its *immediate Deputy*, to whoſe Care the Cauſe of *Europe* was entruſted. They were Her *Generals*, and Her *Armies*, that Fought and Conquer'd: Whoever does not place Her at the Head of the Military *Chimax*, by a better Rule, than that which tranſlates the Glory of the Triumph from the *Troops* to their *Commander*, wrongs the Righteous Cauſe of his Country; and diveſts Him, who ſo juſtly ſtyles Himſelf *The Lord of Hoſts*, of the Exerciſe of his High

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Prerogative in deciding the Fate of Empires; and who cannot be ſuppoſed to give Succeſs to any Inſtruments He employs, purely upon the Recommendations of Conduct and Courage, which are *Pagan* Vertues, unleſs the *Hero* bear the Commiſſion of ſome Superior Potentate, much more renowned for Equity and Goodneſs, which alone can make a Title to the Divine Favour. In *Germany*, Her *Majeſty* has infuſed New Life and Motion into a moſt unweildy Machine of Power, ſuch as lay heavy upon the Necks of many *Cæſars*: She ſav'd that Empire, when threatned with impending Ruin; and has been a nurſing Mother to *Two* Monarchs; the *laſt* of whom cannot more effectually reſtore the antient Honour of his Houſe, than by Copying thoſe Vertues, which he learn'd under *Her* Tuition. *Spain* owns *Her* to be their Protectreſs and Deliverer. *Savoy*, *Pruſſia* and *Portugal* are convinced, that Her Friendſhip is their beſt Security. *She* has enlarged the Borders of the *Seven Provinces*, ſav'd them from Ruin, enrich'd their People, and fenced their Country in on every Side: And after permitting their Jealouſie and Cunning to try all other *Reſorts*, has at length won them to believe, That only *She* can make them happy. The War in the *North* is a wavering Ballance that totters in Uncertainty, till *Her* Mediation ſhall fling in a Weight, and turn the Scale. *The Reform'd* look up to *Her*, and take ſhelter under *Her* Wing. Even the remote *Indians* apply to *Her* Wiſdom and Juſtice; and their *Kings* are proud to be their own Ambaſſadors to ſo Auguſt a *Princeſs*. Were I to imagine any one Power, as immediately appointed by Heaven to put in execution the *Law of Nature* and *Nations*, it muſt be *Her Britannick Majeſty*. By freeing *Europe* from the apprehenſions of *Univerſal Monarchy*; She has obtained the more truly great and agreeable Character, of being *The Univerſal Guardian and Deliverer!*

If we turn our Eyes homeward, *Great Britain*, under her Influence and Auſpices, has not only recovered, but improved her antient Glory. The *Annals* of *Her* Reign are full of ſo many ſurprizing Incidents, that only *She* is capable of adding, by *Her* future Conduct, to *Her* own inexhauſtible Luſtre. The Crown fell to *Her*, at a time, when every Jewel in it grew dim: When to raiſe the Prerogative, to regain the Hearts of the People, and reform a degenerate Age, made the next Reign rather a *Reſtoration* than a *Succeſſion*: Only *Her Majeſty*, like another *Elizabeth*, was equal to this Work. *She* reduced an exorbitant Power, protected *Her* injured Neighbours, gave new Courage to the *Britiſh* Arms, at once reduced a Foreign and Domeſtick Foe, maintain'd the War with a continu'd courſe of Succeſſes, and improved thoſe Succeſſes to the Peace, Safety and Welfare of *Her* People, waded through a thouſand Difficulties, with ſuch unſhaken Conſtancy, as is without Example in *Her* Anceſtors, diſſolved all the well-concerted Schemes that were laid for our Ruin, reſtored the Publick Credit, and brought the Bleſſing of Peace within reach of our Embraces, ſacrificed every human Paſſion, and Appetite, *Her* Eaſe, Health, and thoſe Enjoyments, which *Her* Subjects freely partake under *Her* indulgent Sway, to the Repoſe and Proſperity of the Publick; diſpell'd all our Fears and Jealouſies, and not only ſecured the *Proteſtant Succeſſion*, but made the Crown worth the Care of Poſterity. Religion and the *Church of England* have all along been neareſt *Her* Heart: This Intereſt *She* gave Life to by *Her* Sufferings, enlarged by *Her* Revenue, and promoted by *Her* Example. The *Preſs*, amidſt all its Corruptions, affords a ſhining Inſtance of the Royal Judgment in the Study of Religion, by *Her* Approbation of the beſt Works of our moſt eminent Divines. When the Church, the drooping Virgin, lay in the Duſt, over-whelm'd with Tears, wretched and Comfortleſs; whilſt all the middle Region was full of Clouds and thick Darkneſs, that kept off the benign Influence by which She was cheriſhed, the bright Being from above, often darted a Ray of Comfort; and after a long Struggle, diſpell'd the collected Gloom, and brought back Day, Life, and Refreſhment to thoſe, who only deſerved, and knew how to value the Favour. The love of Peace, a Vertue that neareſt reſembles the Divine Nature, and is more truly *Heroick* than a thouſand Triumphs, has, in all *Her* Actions, appear'd to be *Her* moſt diſtinguiſhing Attribute: This mov'd Her to attempt the *Union* of *Her* Two Kingdoms of *England* and *Scotland*, which *She* happily accompliſhed, and as wiſely approv'd, to the mutual Advantage of *Both*, notwithſtanding the artful Endeavours of thoſe, who would have work'd up that Incident to a *Criſis* of Diſorder and Confuſion. By the ſame Principle, *She* went on to *Unite* the jarring Intereſts and Sentiments of many Nations, knit together by *Alliance*, and to reconcile them in a *General Peace*. The laſt Great *Union* is ſtill behind: *That* of the Hearts and Affections of all *Her* Subjects; for which *She* Prays and Labours inceſſantly; and unleſs ſuch a QUEEN can accompliſh it, we muſt for ever deſpair of the Bleſſing. There is one Ornament of *Her* Reign, and perhaps the nobleſt Inſtance of *Her* Wiſdom, Conduct, Courage and Conſtancy, which muſt not be forgotten: *She* has at length Conquered and laid at *Her* Feet an *Inſolent Faction*, in the midſt of all their Triumphs and Wantonneſs of Power, which had been too hard for all *Her* Predeceſſors of the ſame Royal Stem and Lineage, from the firſt *Great* STUART, under whoſe Indulgence That Viper was nurs'd, which Stung his *SON* to Death, and has infeſted the Crown ever ſince. The *Royal Victor* won the Day by *Sapio*'s Conduct, by Lenity, Long-Suffering and Perſeverance: *She* made uſe of none of their own Weapons; but gave them ſcope and room to play over all their Gambols, till their Security laid open their Deſigns, and they were for ever rooted from the Hearts of a miſguided People, where *Her Majeſty* knew *She* reign'd without a Rival.

How is it poſſible, that ſo great, ſo good a QUEEN ſhould have any Enemies? Are they *Britons*? Are they Men? Can Vertue merit Diſeſteem, or Goodneſs provoke to Hatred? Where is the Temptation of being thus monſtrouſly Ungrateful? Has not *Her Majeſty* cemented *Herſelf* to the Conſtitution? Is not the Knot indiſſoluble? Can we pretend to love our Country, and yet Spurn at its Deliverer, or reconcile our Intereſt to the Ruin of the State? Would any of the Old Patrons of *Reſiſtance* have mutter'd the leaſt Article of their *Creed* in a Reign like this? Is it Her *Crown*, or Her *Family*, that creates the Diſaffection? Muſt the greateſt *Saints* of that *Name* be expoſed to the ſevereſt Trials? But the Thoughts of ſuch Men will not bear the Scrutiny: The Venom of their Souls carries ſo black a Surface, that tho' they had *Windows in their Breaſts*, we could not ſearch it to the Bottom. The Day, I hope, is coming, when ſuch a Mark ſhall be ſet on them, by their Fellow Subjects, as ſhall make their Names as Contemptible as their Numbers; and the utter Renunciation of former Principles ſhall prevent an *Act of Oblivion*.

As *Her Majeſty* has had the Glory of Appearing like *Herſelf* in the worſt of Times, *She* is now in high Splendor amidſt *Her Preſent Miniſtry*, whilſt the Brightneſs *She* communicates is reflected back upon the Throne. In this Choice, the *Voice of the People* goes along with the *Royal Signet*, and by pointing out the Man, outſtrips the News of his Promotion. Theſe Patriots never were in Danger, but in Company with their Country; nor wiſh'd for Proſperity, but for her Sake. The Wonders of their Conduct muſt ſurprize even their worſt Enemies, who Triumph'd in the Impoſſibility of their being able to ſurmount the Difficulties that ſurrounded them, or tame the Monſters that ſprung up every Day to annoy them. Their Succeſſes are the Reward of being Faithful, Conſtant, Loyal, and Publick-ſpirited, of having but one Intereſt, and one Article in their Alliance, *the Love of their Country*. Fortune is not a Match for ſuch a Confederacy; and *Faction* can no more Cope with it, than Inconſiſtencies can overthrow Demonſtration. Theſe Men ſhall not be without a Support, ſo long as Truth, Wiſdom and Juſtice, can make a prevailing Party. The Calumnies rais'd againſt them are but one among many Vices inherent in the Authors. Let them go on to widen the Difference: Light and Darkneſs can never be too far aſunder. Whilſt they Rail and Detract, their Fall proves the Abilities of the *preſent Miniſtry*; and their Impunity is a monumental Inſtance of the Clemency and Goodneſs of the Victors.

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